

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2346

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAG
2 FOR RETIRED PATROLMEN OF THE MISSISSIPPI HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL; TO
3 PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SUCH TAGS; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
7 retired member of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol and who is
8 a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge
9 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
10 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
11 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
12 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
13 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor
14 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
15 retired member of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol. The
16 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
17 design as the State Tax Commission may prescribe and shall consist
18 of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
19 distinguish each license tag and may, in the discretion of the
20 State Tax Commission, display the county name.

21 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
22 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
23 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for such
24 distinctive license tags shall present proof that they are a
25 retired member of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol by
26 presentation of a signed and notarized affidavit from the
27 Commissioner of Public Safety. The application and the additional
28 fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less three



29 percent (3%) thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be
30 remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis as
31 prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional fee
32 retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county
33 general fund.

34 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
35 after July 1, 2002, any person applying for a distinctive license
36 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
37 of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each distinctive license tag applied
38 for under this section which shall be in addition to all other
39 taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of
40 time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag
41 year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the
42 original application is made for a distinctive license tag under
43 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
44 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
45 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
46 tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

47 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
48 State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month,
49 the State Tax Commission shall certify to the State Treasurer the
50 total fees collected under this section from the issuance of
51 distinctive license tags. The State Treasurer shall distribute an
52 amount equal to Seven Dollars (\$7.00) of the additional fees
53 collected for each such distinctive license tag issued under this
54 section to the State General Fund, and the remainder of such
55 additional fees collected shall be distributed by the State
56 Treasurer to the credit of the special fund created in Section
57 45-2-1.

58 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
59 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
60 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
61 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under



62 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
63 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
64 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
65 tag.

66 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
67 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
68 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
69 Section 27-19-37, Mississippi Code of 1972. The fee for a
70 replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
71 The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall
72 be entitled to retain and deposit into the county general fund
73 five percent (5%) of the fee for such replacement license tag and
74 the remainder shall be distributed in the same manner as funds
75 from the sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under
76 this section.

77 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
78 and after July 1, 2002.

